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ON TAP FOR YOU

Seems like all we have this week are bits and pieces...no grand announcements...and a bit of wonderment about people who are able to take leave. But keep reading and you'll learn of situations regarding materials on foreign land investments, a bit of people talks, the usual job announcements, and some comments from here and there.

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WHO'S BUYING WHERE

Roger Sandman, GPA's honcho for intergovernmental relations, says initial information for each state on foreign ownership of land has been sent to each State Commissioner or Secretary of Agriculture...more will be sent after September 1 as the material becomes available. The details are a matter of public record and reflect actual reports.

Those of you who may have had requests for such information should refer questioners to your State Department of Agriculture where copies might be made to answer requests.

Roger also suggests that land-grant university folks who have had questions about foreign land ownership might want to obtain sets of the information from their State Ag Dept. to have on hand for future use.

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SI AMIGO!

All of which reminds us that Jeff Holladay, Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, sent us a board report on marketing in which was a note about an article Jeff wrote, published in a dairy magazine in Columbia. It was said to have resulted in the sale of a load of cubes to a Mr. Gomez Sierra of Bogata.

Jeff wrote: "It came as quite a surprise to me that I'd been published in South America. We'd had fairly good circulation of the...feature story on alfalfa cubes in Oklahoma newspapers and regional farm publications--about 200,000 circulation--but...it blew me away when I discovered the story had made it all the way to South America.

"When I jokingly told the receptionist, who records our total monthly circulation from clippings, to phone down to S.A. and check the publication's circulation, she failed to see the humor. Besides, she wondered, how much credit can we take if we didn't do the translation?"

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REGISTERED YET?

Registrations for the National Agricultural Science Information Conference have been arriving slowly, Mason Miller, Science and Education Administration-Cooperative Research, says. He's got about a dozen, so far. But that's after only a couple of weeks... and no doubt some folks have been on vacation and have missed the announcement.

So...if you've just returned to your office, check through your mail fast and send Mason your registration forms. Dates are October 22-26. Place is Ames, Iowa. Fee is \$50 per person for the main conference, Oct. 22-25; \$25 more per person if you're eligible to participate in the writing workshop Oct. 25-26. If you haven't received registration forms, write Mason at SEA-Cooperative Research, USDA, Room 415-W, Washington, D.C. 20250.

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OCTOBER IS FOR MEETINGS

October is going to be a busy month. On Oct. 17-19, ACE members from Region B will meet in Bozeman, Montana; Sam Rosen and Bill Beasley are planning the meeting.

Oct. 29-31, the Agricultural Relations Council meets at the Hospitality Inn in St. Louis, Missouri. That will be followed by the annual fall meeting of the American Agricultural Editors Association Oct. 31-Nov. 2 at the downtown Sheraton in St. Louis. Both groups are meeting in St. Louis for the first time...formerly they always met in Chicago in conjunction with the 4-H Congress. Too much snow and high prices drove them out, officers say.

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AN ECONOMIST, YET!

Long lost Jim Holderness, one-time editor from Hawaii, called last week. He was attending the big farm cooperatives meeting being held in Columbia, Mo. Jim now teaches a couple of courses in economics...is a member of the Dept. of Agriculture and Resource Economics at the University of Hawaii...says he misses information work and its people.

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DOWN THE GARDEN PATH

Kate Alfrend, GPA, was passing around an interesting green booklet last week. "Inside..." got a peek. It was a report on the urban gardening program in Philadelphia sent to her by Libby J. Goldstein, Penn State urban gardening coordinator from Philly.

We found the booklet most interesting...filled with a very readable, garden-by-garden description of the projects, complete with accomplishments...and disappointments...all handled in a very human manner, well illustrated and designed.

A foreword by Craig Oliver, assistant extension director at Penn State, notes that Philly was one of 16 cities throughout the country that participated in the urban gardening program. If there are other reports, we'd like to see them...and we'll bet you can get a copy of Libby's report if you'll write Penn State.

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THE FUTURE IS HERE

Neil Dowlin, Penn State, says we should have noted that he's a seeker more than a provider about information on use of electronics in our business. (Aren't we all!) He thinks the future has come fast...all in about five years.

By his count, at the ACE meeting in Delaware, six states are adopting or actually using the systems for news and print work.

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WE SAID THESE ARE
DOG DAYS...

Frank Byrnes, one-time editor and past assoc. director of NPAC, now works with the International Agricultural Development Service out of New York City. He gets involved in a number of programs relating to ag communication. His latest is helping VPI comm majors on a project that has to do with the world food situation.

In a letter to GPA asking for some of our materials, he provided six stages in the typical life cycle of any project. We pass them on to you for your edification:

Stage 1, enthusiasm; stage 2, disillusionment; stage 3, panic; Stage 4, search for the guilty; stage 5, punishment of the innocent; stage 6, reward and praise for the non-participants. He says all his projects seem to run this course and asks: Where's yours today? Then Frank also says that a colleague of his suggests a seventh stage: Looking for another job.

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WHEN THINGS LOOK NEW... Sometimes things really sneak up on you, don't they? We were casually looking through a batch of new publications the other day and noticed a new periodical. Then we noticed it wasn't new... just a new look...and it's a dandy.

It was "Foreign Agriculture," issued by the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). Kay Owsley Patterson is editor; Beverly J. Horsley is assoc. editor. They get help from G.H. Baker, Marcellus P. Murphy, Aubrey C. Robinson and Isabel A. Smith. A couple of folks we know are on the advisory board...Don Looper, FAS, and Larry Marton, GPA.

The book now is a monthly...used to be weekly and a real killer, Wally Lindell, FAS, says. The change was made in May although the August issue is the first to reflect the new design.

The new approach is thicker--36 pages--and carries a couple of sections of current news...more current than the regular features, that is. One is called "commodity update" and the other is "trade briefs."

If you aren't getting the periodical now, make your request of FAS.

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VIRGINIA IS HIRING

W.G. Mitchell, Va. Polytech Institute, says he has an opening for a print media person to report inf for extension from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Applicants should apply by Sept. 1...should be trained in print media...have a college degree and three years media experience. Knowledge of ag "very desirable; extension experience helpful." Travel within the state necessary...position carries federal civil service retirement benefits.

Send inquiries to Leonard Herr, Employee Relations, VPI & SU, Blacksburg, Va. 24061.

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SO ARE SEA AND APHIS

The Science and Education Administration (SEA) wants applicants by Aug. 27 for a GS-14 Public Inf Officer to run NE regional inf programs out of Beltsville. Applicants should contact Jim Lynch, Admin. Operations Div., Bldg 003, Rm 107, BARC-West, USDA-SEA, Beltsville, Md. 20705 or call (301) 344-3402.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) needs applicants, also by Aug. 27, for a GS-12 legislative information specialist. Write Chris Clarke, APHIS Personnel Div., Rm 217A, Fed Bldg, 6505 Belcrest Rd, Hyattsville, Md. 20782 or call (301) 436-6483.

APHIS also is hunting for a GS-12 inf specialist to evaluate photo and AV needs of the administrative offices and plan the production of materials to meet those needs. Job requires six years experience, including relations with media. On this job also write or contact Chris Clarke. Closing date is Sept. 4.

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FILMS FOR BERLIN

Buddy Renfro, GPA's motion picture chief, says a couple of films will be entered in this year's Berlin Film Festival. That's next January. The films are the "Killer Bees--Fact or Fantasy" job and the strip mining reclamation film called "Black Diamonds--Green Pastures."

The motion picture division also has just finished a new 22-min. film few of us probably will ever get to see. It's about the Flaming Gorge near Vernal, Utah, and will be used in the Forest Service Visitor Center there to tell all about the history of the place, the geology, the wildlife and the Indians in and around the area before the dam was built.

Buddy, who whittles on stone in his spare time, has also taken on a couple more extra-curricular activities. He's been named a member of the advisory board of Montgomery College for the radio-TV curriculum and also elected a member of the executive committee of the Washington Film Council. Congratulations or condolences? We're not sure which is appropriate, but we'll offer the former.

* * *

HELP!

A plea for help in locating a lost manuscript and artwork for a proposed publication made the information rounds this week.

While several wags made light of the situation, apparently it was serious business. Who would want to write copy again on the subject: "A Monograph of Trichonda with a Model for the Distribution of Holarctic Mycetophilidae (Diptera)"?

The manuscript and artwork were in a package about 20x28 inches, 4 inches thick...mailed from the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center on Feb. 8. The package was addressed to Kay McDonald, Room 3148, South Building, Washington, D.C. and contained 160 pages of manuscript, 22 line drawings, 5 maps, and 1 glossy print.

No...finders can't be keepers. If you find it, send the package to the NE Regional SEA Inf Office, Room 251, Bldg 003, or call (301) 344-3541.

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